



DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

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ALLIN SIGNS TAX

PROTEST LETTER

DPS 85208

WASHINGTON (DPS, Oct. 17) -- Presiding Bishop John M. Allin, who in his address to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church last month said that "excessive taxation is unfair and oppressive and to be prevented...", joined 11 other denominational leaders recently in a statement on "Tax Reform and the Poor".

Prepared by Interfaith Action for Economic Justice, the tax statement noted that "A poverty level family of four now pays over ten percent of its earnings in federal taxes, which robs it of the income to pay for the most basic food, clothing and shelter needs. Taxing families into poverty is a situation we find to be intolerable and immoral."

The statement goes on to declare that tax justice for the poor "must be a major goal in the congressional debate over comprehensive tax reform...As advocates with and for the poor, we urge Congress to enact a tax plan that removes the increasing tax burden from the working poor and from families who are being taxed into poverty."

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Citing the 1981 tax law, the statement pointed out that this included the largest tax cut in US history, but did not include increases or inflation adjustments for the major tax provisions affecting poor people: "Thus, at a time when the affluent gained significant reductions in their tax burden, persons well below the poverty line paid a larger share of their income in taxes."

Praising President Reagan's tax reform proposal for moving in the right direction, the statement said further improvements in the proposal are "crucial" to achieving tax justice for the poor and would require considerable political will.

Specifically, the denominational leaders recommended that:

- All poor people, including single individuals, be exempt from income taxation.
- No one should continue to be taxed into poverty, and the tax burden on the near poor should be reduced significantly.
- The full amount of payroll taxes paid by the working poor should be refunded to them through the income tax system.
- Single heads of households be treated in an equivalent manner to married couples with the same income and family size.
- Child care allowances be targeted so that lower income families receive maximum benefits.

In addition to Allin, those signing the statement included: James E. Andrews, Presbyterian Church, USA; Robert C. Campbell, American Baptist Churches in the US; James R. Crumley, Jr., Lutheran Church in America; Paul A. Duffy, United Methodist Church; Milton G. Engebretson, Evangelical Covenant Church; Natalie Gulbrandsen, Unitarian Universalist Association; Will L. Herzfeld, Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches; John O. Humbert, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); C.J. Malloy, Jr., Progressive National Baptist Convention; Avery D. Post, United Church of Christ; and Everett L. Zabriskie, Reformed Church in America.

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'CI' JONES ELECTED

BISHOP OF MONTANA

DPS 85209

HELENA, Mont. (DPS, Oct. 17) -- Son of a travelling salesman and a radio personality, himself a Certified Public Accountant, private pilot and college instructor, the Ven. Charles Irving Jones was elected Bishop-elect of Montana on the second ballot at the recent diocesan convention here.

Jones, 42, was born in El Paso, Texas, and two years later moved to Asheville, N.C., where he grew up. He received a B.S. with academic and military honors from The Citadel in 1965 and an M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina in 1966. After working for an accounting firm from 1966 through 1972 -- when he was offered a partnership -- Jones spent two years as development director for Chatham Hall in Virginia while making the decision to go to seminary.

While attending seminary at the University of the South, Jones taught accounting there. He received his M.Div. in 1977 and was ordained to the diaconate and the priesthood in that year.

Since his ordination, Jones has been vicar of Trinity Church, Russellville, Ky., during most of which time he was also chaplain for Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green. In 1983, he was made Arch-deacon for Missions for the Diocese of Kentucky, assisting the bishop in ministry of 19 mission congregations and development of two area ministries. Jones, who owns his own plane, found that covering his mission area by air gave him more time to spend with the congregations.

Jones has also been active in rural ministries on the national level, having served on the Rural Planning Team for the national church and on the board of editors for Grassroots, a national publication for small churches. He served as alternate delegate to the last two General Conventions, and in various local and diocesan posts.

The Rev. Patrick H. Reardon, associate professor of Biblical Studies at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pa., was the other nominee presented to the Montana convention, a third having withdrawn prior to the election. There were five nominations from the floor -- four of them Montanans -- but Jones led from the start, having

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received enough votes from the laity for election on the first ballot, and achieving the required number from the clergy on the second.

The consecration is set for early February, when he will succeed the Rt. Rev. Jackson E. Gilliam, who has been Bishop of Montana since 1968.

One thing Jones brings to Montana is a strong mission orientation, important in a diocese which combines the largest area with the lowest (4,500 communicants) population density -- roughly one Episcopalian per 32 square miles. When asked how he would handle this problem, Jones cited the unifying power of prayer and added, "the sense of Christian Community could be enhanced in Montana through increased visiting both by clergy and laity in Christ's Name, by regional programming where possible and appropriate, and by regular mutual prayer. The role of Bishop should be not only to promote each of these activities, but to lead in accomplishing them through example and presence."

Jones married Ashby MacArthur in 1966. They have four sons, ranging in age from 18 to ten. The family lives on a small farm in a passive solar home which they built themselves, following the destruction of their former home in a 1981 fire.

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SEWANEE TOPS

FUND DRIVE GOAL

DPS 85211

SEWANEE, Tenn. (DPS, Oct 17) -- Robert M. Ayres, Jr. vice-chancellor and president of the University of the South, has announced that the University's Century II Capital Funds Campaign goal of \$50 million had been surpassed. To date the fund totals over \$51.5 million.

According to Allan King, the campaign fund's national chairman, "With the help of students, faculty, alumni and friends of the University, Sewanee has accomplished a feat that few if any small universities could accomplish, especially in only a three-year period." The capital funds campaign began three years ago with a kickoff dinner in Nashville.

The Episcopal University, which is governed by 28 dioceses of the Church in 12 southern states, has a yearly enrollment of approximately 1,100 students and an alumni base of just over 11,000.

The University accomplished such a feat by using a variety of fund-raising ideas, including a student campaign, a faculty campaign, a host of dinners throughout the nation and phonathons sponsored by both students and alumni, as well as appeals to the University's governing dioceses.

Vice president for development, William U. Whipple, remarked that "without the help of alumni and numerous volunteers in the campaign, the goal never would have been reached, much less surpassed." The campaign, the largest in the University's history, incorporated a massive list of volunteers from across the country; including campaign leaders from Houston; New York City; New Orleans; Birmingham, Ala.; Nashville; and Atlanta. Gifts came from across the nation and some from overseas.

Even though the University, with the help of its friends and alumni, has accomplished and surpassed the campaign goal of \$50 million, the campaign will continue through Dec. 31 of this year. The conclusion of this campaign in December does not conclude the necessity of funding for Sewanee in order to continue supplying students with the quality liberal arts education that it has become known for in its 128-year history, stated university officials.

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Funds will still be needed to continue to supplement the University's endowment and to help the University complete the ninth consecutive year with an operating budget surplus.

Funds raised through the Century II Capital Funds Campaign are earmarked to increase the University's endowment, improve present facilities and supplement the University's financial aid program for students.

###

ENDOWED PARISHES

BAND TOGETHER

DPS 85212

INDIANAPOLIS (DPS, Oct 17) -- A national group of Episcopal churches had banded together to deal with a peculiar common problem: endowment assets in excess of \$1 million.

Incorporated as the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, the group seeks to assist members with internal management of endowments, distribution of accrued wealth and other stewardship matters.

Ten congregations in several states and dioceses are founding members, according to the Rev. David P. Hegg, rector of St. Peter's Church, Morristown, N.J., and president of the Consortium. Others across the nation are being invited to join.

Members and other qualified parishes will meet Jan. 29-31 at the College of Preachers in Washington, D.C. for an intensive series of talks and workshops on common interests and issues.

The Consortium is backed by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., one of the few national institutions making grants for religious purposes. Dr. Robert W. Lynn, Lilly senior vice-president, said he hoped the Episcopal group will serve as a model for other denominations.

Hegg said the Episcopal Consortium will supply members with publications, demonstrations, conferences and regular exchange of practical information from the central office in Indianapolis. The Rev. Robert A. McGill, a retired Episcopal priest, is the executive director. The address is Suite 222, 20 North Meridan Street, Indianapolis, IN. 46204. Telephone: (317) 634-1171.

Founding members of the Consortium are the Parish of Trinity Church, New York; Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis; Christ Church, Short Hills, N. J; Christ Church, Cincinnati; St. Luke's Church, Philadelphia; St. Andrew's Church, Kansas City, Mo; St. Paul's Church, Indianapolis; Church of St. Michael and St. George, Clayton, Mo; Trinity Church, Indianapolis, and St. Peter's Church Morristown, N.J.

In addition to Hegg, officers are: Juli S. Towell of Short Hills, vice-president; Richard Ferguson-Wagstaffe of Indianapolis, secretary; and the Reverend James G. Callaway of New York, Treasurer.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Press
FROM: The Press Office/ The Episcopal Church Center
SUBJECT: Coverage/ Installation of the Presiding Bishop
DATE: Oct. 17, 1985

Members of the Press are invited to cover the installation of the Rt. Rev. Edmond L. Browning as 24th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church on Jan. 11, 1986 at the Washington Cathedral. The Church Center Communication staff, in cooperation with Nancy Montgomery and Linda Freeman of Cathedral Communications, will be handling press relations. Press (writing, plus still and video camera crews) will be seated in the South balcony of the Cathedral for the services. Typewriters and telephones, plus limited copying facilities, will be available upon request.

We will publish full coverage of the events, including pertinent speeches and sermons and a selection of black & white photographs. These will be mailed Jan. 16. In addition, a 28-minute color videotape is planned, and other audio and video feeds may be available. Some color photographs will also be available.

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the nearby Wellington Hotel and will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis upon request. Requests must be accompanied by either one night's deposit (\$55) or by credit card guarantee and can be made on the accompanying form.

SPECIFIC EVENTS

January 10, (evening) A Celebration of The Hymnal, 1982: Participants, including choirs and church members from neighboring dioceses, will gather in the Cathedral to sing the hymns and service music from the new Hymnal.

January 11 (10:30 a.m.) The Installation. Bishop Browning will preach and Presiding Bishop John Watanabe of Japan and Bishop Desmond Tutu of Johannesburg are expected to participate. Rite II Eucharist with congregational setting. Seating by ticket.

(Following the service) Press Conference with Bishop Browning. The College of Preachers library. A light collation will be provided for the members of the press.

(Early afternoon) Reception for all guests at the Sheraton Hotel.

January 12 (11 a.m.) Eucharist. Bishop Tutu has been invited to preach.

RESERVATIONS/ACCREDITATION

Please fill out the accompanying forms and return them to:

The Press Office
The Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Reservation must be accompanied by check or credit card information and MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1985

ACCREDITATION REQUEST

(This form must be returned to the Press Office, Episcopal Church Center, 815 2d Ave., New York, NY 10017, by Dec. 2, 1985)

(Last Name, First Name, M.I.)

(Title)

(Publication, station)

I plan to cover Friday night () Saturday () Sunday ().

I would like to have typewriter (), telephone () available.

(office use only)

Form received __/__/85. Letter sent __/__/85

HOUSING REQUEST

(This form must be received accompanied by check or credit card info by Dec. 2, 1985. Mail to: The Press Office, Episcopal Church Center, 815 2d Ave. New York, NY 10017. Check payable to: The Wellington Hotel.

Please reserve one room at the Wellington Hotel for:

for the following night(s):

Friday, Jan. 10, 1986 _____

Saturday, Jan. 11, 1986 _____

() I have enclosed a check for \$55 for one night's reservation.

() I will use the following credit card:

Type of Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date __/__/__

Arrival date & time _____

Departure date & time _____